

WDA Council Meeting
Sunday 22 July, Lyon, France

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Dolores Gavier-Widén (President), Thierry Work (Vice president) Laurie Baeten (Treasurer), Peregrine Wolff (Secretary), Jim Mills (Editor Journal of Wildlife Diseases), Colin Gillin (Member at Large and President of the American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians), Julie Langenberg (Member at Large), Kristin Mansfield (Member at Large), Ignasi Marco (Member at Large), Erik Ågren (Nordic Section), Thijs Kuiken (European Section), Marcella Uhart (Latin America Section)

Others present were Dave Jessup (WDA Executive Manager), Andrea Reiss (Chair –elect Australasian section) Barbara Ellis, Carlos Das Neves, Billy Karesh, Pam Whitely, Tom Yuill and Tami O'Rourke

President Gavier-Widén called the meeting to order at 13:37 Central European Time and welcomed the members present. President Gavier-Widén commented that this has been a busy year. The addition of a second conference call in March as well as the efficiency of e-business has allowed Council to accomplish much during the year.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes from March 23, 2012 conference call were approved via e-business.

Item 2012-16: WDA Australian Section representation was presented by - Dave Jessup

Interim Chair David Spratt had requested that Andrea Reiss the incoming Chair of the Australasian Section be allowed to be seated at Council and represent the WDA-A. Article 9/Section 7 of the By-laws covers this.

Motion (Uhart/Langenberg): WDA Council approves the seating of Andrea Reiss as the elected chairperson of WDA-A and her representation of that section during the July 2012 WDA Council meeting and until the end of her term. *Passed Unanimously*

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

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Interim treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Baeten and these numbers reflect the first quarter values. Investment portfolio is at \$1,390,716. Our Ever Bank CD will mature in August and is currently at \$ 25,325.00. The JWD endowment push has resulted in an increase of donations in general in other categories. It appears that in order to donate on the AMM site that you must be a member of WDA.

Action Item for Treasurer: L. Baeten will look into whether only WDA members can donate on the AMM site because this site is useful to be used to accept credit card payments during the auction.

Motion (Baeten/Kuiken): That the Wildlife Disease Association interim 2012 financial report detailing current assets totaling \$1,421,685 as of March 31, 2012 (as reported by Allen Press accountants) be accepted as presented.
Passed Unanimously

Vice President's Report

Vice president's report was presented by Thierry Work who chairs the Time and Place Committee and oversees 17 Committees. Plans for the 2013 annual conference are coming along well. The proposal for 2014 is to have the meeting in New Mexico and there is discussion for a return to Australia for 2015 perhaps in Darwin, Australia.

Secretary's Report

Secretary's report was presented by Peri Wolff.

The following are motions passed since the August 14 and 17, 2011 Council Meeting:

Conducted as E-Business

Motion (Gillin / Mansfield): - That the 2011 revised guidelines of the Wildlife Disease Association Student Activities Committee be approved. (October 14, 2011)

Motion (Gillin / Mansfield): - That the 2011 revised guidelines of the Wildlife Disease Association Information Committee be approved. (October 14, 2011)

Approved during December 21, 2011 Council Conference Call:

Motion (Kuiken/Work): - WDA Council approves the appointment of Dr. Samantha Gibbs as Editor of the WDA Newsletter. (December 21, 2011)

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Motion (Baeten/Kuiken): - WDA Council approves the E-Brochure developed by the Information Committee. (December 21, 2011)

Motion: (Baeten/Creekmore) - WDA Council approves the report of the Treasurer and Budget developed for 2012. (December 21, 2011)

Motion: (Work/Langenberg) - WDA Council approves the report of the Nominations Committee and the slate of candidates for the election to be held in the spring of 2012. (December 21, 2011)

Conducted as E-Business:

Motion: (Kuiken/Carleton) - WDA Council approves the Minutes of both the Council meetings conducted August 14 and 17, and of the business meeting conducted August 18th, 2011 in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada (January 25, 2012)

Motions: (Creekmore/Uhart) - WDA agrees to allow its logo and name to be used in endorsement of the 8th International Symposium on Avian Influenza. (February 10, 2012)

Approved During March 23, 2012 Council Conference Call:

Motion: (Meteyer/Kuiken) Council approves the following 3 spending priorities for using investment revenues:

- 1) Endowment of the Journal of Wildlife Diseases (JWD)
 - 2) Increase WDA's electronic presence
 - 3) Member Initiated Discretionary Projects
- (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Carleton/Work) The amount of investment revenue to be utilized for specific spending priority projects in fiscal 2012 should be set at \$40,000. (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Kuiken/Creekmore) - A new Cause Specific Fund should be established for endowment of the Journal of Wildlife Diseases and its worldwide distribution. The fund should receive \$25,000 from the general investment fund in 2012. This should be combined with the grant funds from USDA-APHIS-WS and WDA member and leadership donations to establish the new fund. (March 23, 2012)

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Motion: (Work/Langenberg) Up to \$15,000 should be made available for enhancing the WDA's electronic presence. Any funds not used in 2012 will be put toward the Cause Specific Fund for the endowment of the Journal of Wildlife Diseases and its worldwide distribution. (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Meteyer/Work) - A committee should be formed to develop the infrastructure and guidelines for soliciting, receiving, evaluating and ranking the Membership Initiative proposals, including proposals coming from Sections and Committees as well as individual members, to be developed in time for discussion at the 2012 WDA International Conference. (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Work/Kuiken) - WDA Council approves the transfer of \$9, 000 to VetAgro via Marc Artois to support 2012 Annual International Conference preconference expenses. (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Creekmore/Meteyer) - WDA Council approves the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Memorial Award guidelines. (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Kuiken/Gillin) - WDA Council approves the expenditure of approximately \$2500 from the Executive Manager's operational budget for his travel to and expenses directly related to the 2012 61st International Conference in Lyon France in July 2012. (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Langenberg/Carleton) - WDA Council approves the expenditure of up to \$3000 from the Executive Manager's 2012 operational budget for the development of a database of past WDA Council decisions, deliberations and recommendations by Ecolink Science. (March 23, 2012)

Motion: (Creekmore/Meteyer) - WDA Council approves the Audit Committee Report and thanks Mike Ziccardi and his committee for accepting this assignment. (March 23, 2012)

Conducted as E-Business:

Motion: (Langenberg/Carleton) - WDA Council approves the minutes of the December 2011 WDA Council Conference Call. (April 25, 2012)

Motion: (Uhart/Gillin) - WDA Council approves the Minutes of the March 23rd, 2012 business meeting conducted via conference call. (June 1, 2012)

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Result of Elections for New Council Members for 2012:

Council Members at Large

Patricia Bright

Rick Gerhold

Student Member of Council

Lisa Shender

EDITORS' REPORTS

Journal of Wildlife Diseases Editor

JWD editor's report was presented by Jim Mills. An overview of journal metrics including the Impact Factor and other metrics and how these relate to the JWD was presented as well as median time from submission to acceptance. A review of the submission statistics was also presented including a review of submissions by country and manuscripts by type (full manuscript, short communications and letters) and how this has changed over time. An emphasis by the editorial team on adherence to established rejection and acceptance rates, page allowances by category and the use of a mix of Full Articles, Short Communications and Letters will result in the maximum number of manuscripts being published while minimizing costs of production.

Editor Mills, Dave Jessup and Barbara Ellis attended a meeting with Allen Press which was very productive. Discussion items included the use of the Allen track system. Some items that were discussed include:

1. A system which notifies all authors that they are on a manuscript
2. The requirement for suggested reviewers
3. The ability for the AE and reviewer to save their work

We are now members of Publishers international linking Association (PILA) and members of Cross Ref which attaches Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) to each manuscript to track it through time and allow JWD to take advantage of such opportunities as open access for a fee, publication before printing and anti-plagiarism software.

There are new Instructions to Authors available that will come out with the first issue of 2013. These new guidelines follow the Council of Science Editors latest guidelines and allow access to a new editorial tool from Allen Press. Allen Press will also be assisting with some tasks that were previously done by the Editor.

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The new Journal format was also explained with the table of contents moved to the inside allowing the back cover to be utilized for advertisements. Advertisement could also be placed on pages within the body of the Journal. AMM is doing the soliciting for advertisers but WDA has made suggestions for potential advertisers and provided guidelines for the type of advertisers that are appropriate to WDA. A brief discussion followed about how monies received from advertising in the Journal fits into the funds being raised for the Journal endowment. This is being addressed by the Officers and the Editorial Committee.

A brief discussion followed concerning the funding available from EcoHealth Alliance for authors to help with page charges on articles that are based on "One Health" or ecosystem health. No article was published in 2012 with support from this program. Awareness of this program may be lacking. Many section members may not read the Newsletter as it is not in their language.

Action Item: Note in WDA as well as the Section Newsletters that there are funds available to support page charges for articles that are based on ecological health as outlined in the agreement from EcoHealth Alliance.

Action Item: Look into the potential of having translation software available to translate the Newsletter perhaps into Spanish and other languages to improve readership.

The question was raised concerning the solicitation of review papers. Three were published in 2012. J. Mills has been approached by a number of authors who have offered to write a review paper.

There have been changes to the Editorial Board. Long time member Don Forrester has stepped down. Three Associate Editors have been asked to join the Editorial Board, Dave Stallknecht, Buffy Howarth and Mike Miller. By-laws require that this is approved by Council. There was no opposition to these appointments, and the three appointments were approved.

The question was raised whether we provide recognition of the reviewers and Associate Editors. Currently they are recognized in the hard copy and the electronic copy of the Journal, but we may want to investigate greater recognition for these individuals.

Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor's Report was presented by Executive Manager Dave Jessup. Two were produced by the new Newsletter Editor Samantha Gibbs

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and a third is in the works. There continues to be an adequate number of submissions from the Sections and Samantha is working with USGS-NWHC to reduce the number of pages devoted to the Morbidity and Mortality Report and instead provide links to some of this information.

Website Editor

The Website Editor's Report was presented by Executive Manager Dave Jessup. Website was moved to a new host site which remedied previous security issues. Since 2011 we have had approximately 288 hits per day to the website. We are working with Allen Marketing and Management (AMM) to transition the website to their professional website management service. This will allow the website editor to focus on content more than maintenance chores for the website.

EXECUTIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

Executive Manager Report was presented by Dave Jessup. A review of some of contracted / routine duties were reviewed.

1. Of note he has hired someone to write the welcome letters to the new members. This is now done monthly improving efficiency and saving money.
2. Quarterly news releases are being put out which contain highlights of articles from the next issue of the Journal. A few have been picked up by a number of journals. Which articles are included is a decision made by the Associate Editors. B. Karesh suggested that the information be sent out early with a "please embargo until..." notice across the top. This will give these agencies time to insert the piece and may encourage them to publish this as they may feel they are breaking news. We are focusing on putting out a list of more articles and letting the people that receive the news release decide what content they want. We could pay for this type of service to get our name out in the press, but it would cost \$5,000/year.

J. L. Angenberg commented that it would be nice to get these to major news sources in the country of origin of the author as they might be interested in running a story. B. Karesh offered to help edit the Quarterly News Releases so that they may be more appealing to the popular press. For a small fee these could be blasted to some services that will blast them internationally.

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Items performed by the Executive Manager of particular focus include the following items:

1) MOU/MOA with TWS and AAWV

Wildlife professional: Disease issue. We received some advertising and the issue was made available electronically to all the WDA members.

TWS recently has offered to partner with WDA to increase our public outreach and electronic presence. One proposal is to regularly write a disease piece for the Wildlife Professional. This article would then be open access to all our members.

C. Gillin commented that TWS also contacted AAWV and suggested that AAWV and WDA partner within this endeavor. This is a new item and needs to be discussed further.

2) Pursuing truant authors. This has been successful. Over \$15,000 has been collected and page charges past due longer than 60 days are at an all time low. A lot of authors had just moved on or their grants had run out. We have changed our author billing process and hopefully this won't be a problem as authors are now paying upfront via credit card or getting invoiced for their page charges when their article is accepted.

3) Google group email system. This is used for member only "value added" items. Looks like this now may be handled on the new website through AMM and we may want to discontinue within the next year.

4) Endowment campaign. \$25,000 grant from USDA-WS to launch the campaign. We received a keystone donation and requested and received a 9:1 leadership match. We have also asked the general membership to contribute and hope to have the other half of the original \$ 25,000 grant matched. This along with \$25,000 from our investments will allow us to triple the original \$25,000 grant from USDA-WS to support the endowment and worldwide distribution of the Journal in a year.

5) Membership – we seemed to have stopped the general membership decline but continue to see declines in subscribers. We have focused on membership value added items, but surveys indicate that this may not yet be that important to members. We have also looked into

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membership as part of meeting registration. Other organizations do this.

Action Item: Further review membership rates for conference registration for full members vs associate members. Should we consider having conference registration include a one year membership? It appears that some conference attendees may be unaware that there is a geographic section to which they could belong if they became a full member of WDA. In Europe individuals may want to be part of the EWDA section but do not have an affiliation for the parent organization. How can we get more individuals that come to meetings to then decide to be WDA members, how do we capture these people? How can we grow the sections? We want to give people an incentive to become WDA members. This may require a different approach for different countries.

COUNCIL BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS

Item 2012-17: Open Access for a Fee in Journal of Wildlife Diseases - *Jim Mills*

This item requires a vote by Council as involves an expenditure of over \$1000. Increasing number of journals are adding “open access for a fee” option to authors that are willing to pay. For the specific article the journal will allow immediate open access as opposed to JWD which currently goes to open access after 18 months. There have already been authors inquiring whether JWD offers this. Our fee for this for authors will be \$1,000 for members and \$1,500 for non-members which is within the range of other journals with an impact factor similar to JWD. There is a onetime set up fee of \$1,500 for this service.

B. Karesh suggested that we may want to consider utilizing some of the proceeds to select an “Editor’s Choice” article, either solicited or not, to also be immediate open access to increase the profile of the Journal.

Motion (Mills/Kuiken):WDA Council approves providing an online access option for authors that publish in JWD and the use of \$1,500 for costs associated with the setup of online access. *Passed Unanimously*

Motion (Mills/Work):Council approves charging authors a fee for open access of \$1,000 for members and \$1,500 for nonmembers with revenue to be used for endowment of Journal of Wildlife Diseases and its worldwide distribution. *Passed Unanimously*

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Item 2012-20: Sustaining Membership for AAWV and others - Dave Jessup

WDA Bylaws require that Council approve the recognition of sustaining members. The minimum level of contribution for that classification has been set at \$1000. Sustaining members are recognized for one year in each issue of JWD on a page set aside for that purpose, or more recently on the back inside cover. In addition to AAWV we now have 1 other non-profit and four individuals or couples. They will be recognized in the four issues of the journal.

Motion (Kuiken/Uhart): The WDA Council approves acknowledgement of AAWV as an “organizational sustaining member” of WDA for a period of one year, renewable yearly as long as AAWV continues to provide support at the level of \$1000 per year to support endowment of JWD operations and worldwide distribution. *Passed Unanimously*

Motion (Work/Mansfield): The WDA Council approves acknowledgement of IWVS as an “organizational sustaining member” and all individual donors of \$1000 or more to the endowment and worldwide distribution of JWD as “sustaining members” for a period of one year. *Passed Unanimously*

Item 2012-21: Approve New Mexico as location for 2014 WDA Conference - Thierry Work

The Time and Place Committee (T&P Committee) has put New Mexico forth as a potential venue for the 2014 meeting; either in Albuquerque or Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Time and Place Committee was supportive of the venue. WDA will work with the conference team to review some of the proposed venues and that there is adequate support present to ensure a successful conference.

There was brief discussion concerning how often the annual conference should occur in North America. Based solely on proportion of members living in North America at least 50-60% of meetings should be held there. But, holding meetings where we have a smaller membership base can have a dramatic positive effect on regional membership as seen in Latin America during and after the 2010 meeting in Argentina. There is no rule within the by-laws that addresses this issue. Where the conference will be held is determined by a number of factors but what often leads to the greatest

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success is when an individual enthusiastically approaches WDA to host the conference and all of these factors are reviewed by the T&P Committee.

Motion (Work//Uhart): Council approves the selection of New Mexico as the general location for the 2014 WDA International Conference with final site selection of specific location by the Time and Place committee to be made on or before December 1, 2012 after gathering of further information. *Passed Unanimously*

Item 2012-22: Use of 2012 WDA EWDA auction proceeds - Thijs Kuiken

Discussion concerns dividing the proceeds of the auction between the WDA and the EWDA. It was not specified in the original formal agreement between WDA and VetAgro that the auction proceeds would be split between WDA and EWDA for student activities.

Motion (Work/Ågren): That the net proceeds (after all costs paid) of the 2012 WDA-EWDA Auction be split 50/50 between WDA and EWDA. EWDA is strongly encouraged to include WDA students from the Nordic countries of Europe in the use of these funds. *Passed Unanimously*

Item 2012-23: Ed Addison Distinguished Service Award and the Emeritus Award for 2012 (CONFIDENTIAL!) Dolores Gaiver-Widén

Discussion ensued concerning the definition of *travel expenses* in the Awards Committee guidelines it is not clear what this encompasses.

Action Item: To insure that the Awards Committee guidelines for paying travel expenses to the annual conference for the awardees meshes with the language concerning this issue that is in the by-laws.

Motion (Uhart/Langenberg): WDA Council approves the award of the 2012 WDA Ed Addison Distinguished Service Award to both Ian Beveridge and Margo Pybus. *Passed Unanimously*

Motion (Uhart/Work): WDA Council approves the award of the 2012 Emeritus award to Kathy Converse. *Passed Unanimously*

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(T Kuiken proposed friendly amendment to each of the two above motions. These amendments by universal consent, were adopted by Council)

Motion (Kuiken/Gillin): WDA Council approves budgeting for the expenses as specified in the Committee guidelines of Ian Beveridge at the 2012 WDA conference. WDA council approves budgeting for the expenses as specified in the Committee guidelines for Margo Pybus and Kathy Converse to receive their awards at the 2013 WDA conference in Knoxville TN. *Passed Unanimously*

Item 2012-24: approve items for WDA discretionary Funding ad-Hoc committee - Thierry Work

WDA does not have a good mechanism to determine how to spend discretionary funds requested by members. A committee will be created to develop a system for the adjudication of discretionary funds (or “small grants”) to membership initiatives.

T kuiken: This is good opportunity for WDA to use its funds to further the mission. Three points concerning the draft guidelines are: 1) the guidelines are more like a list rather than actually a cohesive direction for people to go. It would be nice to have more consistency in the guidelines so members know what to expect every year. This will still allow Council to make changes to the guidelines as needed. Perhaps council can establish a set of guidelines that will stay the same over the years so members know what to expect, 2) Have treasurer give ball park figure annually what is out there then the members can work within these guidelines and 3) within the goals of the Small Grant Committee last goal is the best and should be the main emphasis “to give the WDA new ways to accomplish its mission”

There was a question concerning whether this money is actually revenue? It is not actual annual revenue. Per the investment firm, at our current levels of funds that WDA can spend \$40,000/year on discretionary projects without decreasing the principal. At last year’s Council meeting it was decided that 65% goes to endowment and that the remainder go toward increasing WDA’s electronic presence and other discretionary projects. This ad-hoc committee was formed to determine the guidelines for these “member initiated projects” and how we would use these discretionary funds to support them. It is up to Council to vote on the draft guidelines as proposed by the ad-hoc Committee. If Council would like more time to review these draft guidelines then this can

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be completed by e-voting. It would be possible to give a ballpark figure of what might be available each year but this could change.

This funding is not meant to be limited to the Sections only.

Motion (Kuiken/Uhart):

Council approves the concept of a Membership Small Grants Program, with the goal to have the guidelines to be finalized and approved by council by 31 december 2012. *Passed Unanimously*

Item 2012-25: approve revised Budget and Audit Committee guidelines - Laurie Beaten

The Chair of the Budget and Audit Committee has asked Council to review the current and slightly modified committee guidelines

The question was asked if we could have the budget ready to discuss during the Council meeting at the annual conference rather than waiting until the December conference call. L. Baeten explained that we would not have enough of the revenue/expenditure figures by the annual conference to be able to make an adequate prediction so this is why the budget is discussed at the December conference call.

A point was made to change the words "winter" and "summer" to the actual months to accomodate the different seasons in the two hemispheres.

Motion (Uhart/Work): Council approves the Budget and Audit committee guidelines as dated, *June 2012*.

(D. Jessup proposed a friendly amendment to the motion. This amendment by universal consent, was adopted by Council)

Item 2012-26: approve revised International Committee guidelines - Ignasi Marco

Chair of the Committee I. Marco commented that the attached guidelines did not appear to be the correct guidelines. President Gavier-Widén chose to table the discussion until the correct version of the guidelines could be reviewed by the Committee.

Item 2012-27 approve revised Nominations Committee Guidelines – Dave Jessup

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Council members pointed out a few issues with the draft guidelines including:

- Discrepancy between the use of student vs. student counselor in points #4 and 11.
- There is no personal agenda statement example that is given in the sample format at the end of the guideline
- The draft should be dated and this should be reflected within the motion
- Changes should be performed in track changes

President Gavier-Widén chose to table further discussion until the Committee has addressed the issues outlined above.

Information Items

- a) Item 2012-18: Purchase of plagiarism identification software - *Jim Mills*
- b) Item 2012-19: Publish Ahead of Print for a Fee in the Journal of Wildlife Diseases - *Jim Mills*
- c) Item 2012-28: WDA-OIE possible collaboration agreement.
- d) Item 2012-29: Corporate policies and procedures - *Dave Jessup*
- e) Item 2012-30: SEPRL Stake holders meeting
- f) Item 2012-32: Membership and Promotions Committee Items: new photo library and on web "Get Involved" page
- g) Item 2012-33: Support of One Health Initiative presented by Tom Yuill.

WDA has always supported the "One Health" concept. There are now over 50 organizations and individuals who support the philosophy and concept and have created the One Health Initiative. This initiative mainly occurs in an electronic meeting place for those who support the One Health concept. The Initiative distributes information and materials through their newsletter and on their website. Many of the member organizations have delved deeply into the one health concept in the policy and research arenas. The website currently has a link to the EWDA website but not to WDA. T. Yuill feels that WDA should officially say yes and join the One Health Initiative. It would give WDA more visibility and perhaps assist with the fund raising effort to endow the Journal. There would be no associated costs but they may request that we contribute information to their newsletter.

President Gavier-Widén thanked T. Yuill for the presentation and indicated that this would be furthered discussed by Council.

Annual reports from Sections

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- a) Australasian Section - annual report presented by Andrea Reiss
Discussed during this report was the issue with insuring international meetings for liability. Most North American insurance companies won't do this.

Action Item to the Executive Manager: Are there companies that will insure conferences that are held internationally?

- b) Latin American Section - annual report presented by Marcela Uhart
- c) Nordic Section - annual report presented by Erik Ågren
- d) European Section - annual report presented by Thijs Kuiken
- e) WVS Section - annual report presented by Colin Gillin
- f) Africa-Middle East - Update presented by Dave Jessup

Action Item to the Sections: D. Jessup reminded the sections that per our By-laws all geographic sections must provide financial information on what the reimbursements that come back from WDA to the Sections was used for. A brief accounting of what the money was used for is needed. This is required by the Internal Revenue Service that shows that this money is being used to support the mission of the WDA. L.Baeten mentioned that it is also getting harder to send money internationally and that the banks and the IRS require more information and accounting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Gavier-Widén advised Council members to review the Committee reports and the informational items and thanked Vice-president Work for his oversight of the Committees

OTHER BUSINESS

President Gavier-Widén also thanked the Executive Manager for his efforts throughout the year as well as the hard work performed by the Sections, Editors and Officers.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 17:30 (Baeten/Ågren). *Passed unanimously*